

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES
OF THE
Thirty-seventh Annual Session
OF THE
BOILING SPRING
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
New Home Church

Randolph County, Ala.

October 24, 25, and 26

1896

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. W. M. GARRETT, Oaklone, Ala.

Secretary, J. H. FULLERTON, Delta, Ala.

The next session of this body will be held with Bethlehem
Church, on Tuesday after the fourth Sunday
in October, 1897

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MINUTES.

The Boiling Spring Baptist Association assembled for its thirty-seventh session with New Home church, Randolph County, Alabama, at 11 o'clock a. m. on Saturday the 24th day of October, 1896.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. H. C. Knight from Eph. 2nd chapter, 20th verse. "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone," followed by Rev. T. H. Howle; after the benediction by Rev. W. M. Garrette, adjourned one hour for refreshments.

At 2 o'clock the messengers assembled in the church house and were called to order by Rev. W. M. Garrette (former moderator), J. H. Fullerton acting as clerk. After singing, were led in prayer by Rev. J. W. Stephens from the Carey Association. An address of welcome was offered by Rev. T. H. Howle, pastor of New Home church; responded to by Rev. J. A. Shadix in behalf of the Association.

The Moderator requested Brethren G. F. Ingram and L. P. Hodnette to receive, and Brethren W. T. Davis, J. W. Jackson from the Carey Association and Bro. T. H. Howle to read letters from the churches.

Messengers' names were enrolled as follows:

Bethlehem—J. M. Snow, W. D. Hood, W. P. Humphries, W. J. Johnson, T. H. Waters, John Horn, W. J. Price.

Bethel—W. W. Payne, J. J. Swope, J. H. Davis, C. J. Payne, W. L. Miller, M. A. Smith.

Bethsaida—Not represented.

Christiana—J. D. Knight, S. B. Ingram, W. C. McDaniel, C. H. Mason, John Duke, J. H. Taylor, J. H. McDaniel, Wilson Johnson.

Good Hope—W. E. Reagan, H. C. A. Grubbs, T. H. Miller, J. C. Stansell.

New Home—L. E. Daniel, H. F. Stephens, J. W. Smith, N. M. Daniel.

Mt. Moriah—G. F. Ingram, E. F. Lester, A. M. Smith, J. A. Preston, J. F. Preston.

Pine Grove—Not represented.

Junifer—Jas. Ward, L. L. Dameron, W. L. Hughes, J. F. Clark, P. W. Cotton, W. M. Clark, J. R. Ruff.

Ramah—J. H. Fullerton, T. M. Reeves, S. B. Smith, W. B. Matthews, W. W. Denman, J. W. Garrett, H. C. Willingham.

Salt Creek—J. A. Wright, J. A. Adams, J. H. Murner, J. R. Tramell.

Union—J. A. C. Shadix, T. C. Strickland, R. R. Carter, J. F. Shadix, E. A. Stansell.

Providence—G. W. Gunter, Willie Guthrie, W. H. Patterson.

Ebenezer—Not represented.

Pleasant Grove—W. B. Gregg, P. D. Atchison, J. N. Price, J. Grabin, H. H. Reeves, J. M. Atchison.

Mt. Olive—J. T. Allen, F. C. Fulton, H. C. Sims.

Lime Hill—T. E. Cook, W. G. Raughton, W. H. Spradly.

Called the roll. The Moderator announced a quorum present and a permanent organization in order and requested Brethren F. J. Ingram and Dr. J. H. Garrette to act as tellers in the election of officers. A motion of Rev. T. H. Howle to elect Moderator and Clerk by acclamation was adopted and nominations called for, Bro. T. H. Howle put in nomination the names of W. M. Garrette for Moderator, and J. H. Fullerton for Clerk. On motion of Rev. J. A. Shadix they were unanimously elected. In a few brief

and appropriate remarks the Moderator accepted and declared the body duly organized and ready for business.

1. Read the Rules of Decorum.

2. On motion of Rev. T H Howle adopted the former order of business.

3. An invitation was given to churches desiring membership with this body.

4. Called for correspondence and received Revs. W. T. Davis, J. W. Stephens and Brethren F J. Ingram, J. W. Jackson from the Carey and Rev. R. H. Hix, I N. Daniel from the Arbacoochee, and Brethren James Bruce, J. T. Thrower from Cedar Creek.

5. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

6. Appointed a committee on Devotional Service, viz: Brethren J. A. Preston, W. W. Payne, W. W. Denman with the messengers from New Home church.

7. Vacancies on standing committees were filled by adding as follows:

On Foreign Missions, Rev. W. M. Garrette; on Temperance, Rev. T. H. Howle; on Publications, Rev. J. A. Shadix; on Orphans' Home, Brethren J. H. Davis and T. H. Howle.

On motion of Rev. J. A. Shadix, suspended the order of business and appointed a committee to raise a contribution for the afflicted family of Bro. Willis Taylor, viz: J. D. Knight and W. B. Greggs. A motion of Rev. H. C. Knight to take up a public collection for the bereaved and afflicted family of Mr. Robt. Peacock on to-morrow was adopted. Resumed the regular order of business.

The Clerk read the report of the committee from the church of New Home on assigning homes to the messengers. On motion of Bro. W. B. Mathews adjourned the business of the Association until Monday morning 9 o'clock, after the benediction by Rev. W. T. Davis from Carey Association.

SABBATH DEVOTIONS.

Sabbath morning 9 o'clock. Rev. Jas A. Shadix preached from Romans 4th chapter 25th verse: "Who was delivered for offences and was raised again for our justification."

At 11 o'clock the missionary sermon was preached by Rev. T. H. Howle from 9th chapter 37-38 verses of Matthew: "And saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

After which a collection was taken up amounting to \$2 62. Rev. W. H. Preston preached at the school house near by at the same hour, from 2nd Cor. 2 chapter 14th verse, followed by Rev. J. W. Stephens. After one hour for refreshments Rev. W. T. Davis preached in the church and W. P. Eden at the school house. When a collection was taken for the bereaved and afflicted families of Robt. Peacock and T. B. Somerlin, amounting to \$4 91. Congregations were large and good order prevailed in the houses, and we trust much good was accomplished.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The body was called to order by the Moderator at 9 o'clock, after singing, "All praise to him who reigns above," and reading the 12th chapter of Romans; were led in prayer by Rev. I N. Daniel. Renewed the invitation to visiting brethren. Renewed the call for correspondence and received Bro. D. B. Hicks, W. H. Wright and Frank McKenzie, W. B. Morrison from the Arbacoochee, Rev. W. O. Jenkins and W. H. Preston from the Carey. On motion of Rev. J. D. Johnson, suspended the order of business and appointed correspondence to other Associations.

To Carey—Revs. J. D. Johnson, W. M. Garrett, T. H. Howle, J. A. Shadix, S. J. Ingram, Brethren J. H. Davis, W. W. Payne, W. E. Reagan, J. J. Swope.

To the Arbacoochee—Revs. J. A. Shadix, W. M. Garrett, T. H. Howle, H. H. Stephens, Brethren A. M. Smith, A. J. Preston.

Cedar Creek—J. D. Johnson, W. W. Payne, J. A. Preston, H. C. Willingham, T. H. Howle, W. M. Garrett, J. J. Swope, W. P. Humphries, J. H. Horn, W. L. Miller, A. M. Smith, E. F. Lester, T. C. Strickland.

Calhoun—J. D. Johnson, J. A. Shadix, T. H. Howle, W. M. Garrett, J. F. Clark, W. D. Gann, J. H. Horn, W. P. Humphries, C. C. Barrett, J. A. Wright.

On motion of J. D. Johnson to open correspondence with Rock Mill Association, was adopted and T. H. Howle, J. H. Fullerton appointed as correspondents.

Resumed the regular order of business and appointed a committee on Finance, viz: W. E. Reagan, A. M. Smith, W. P. Humphries.

Called for reports of standing committee, when E. F. Lester, from the committee on Sabbath Schools, asked further time, which was granted.

Bro. W. W. Payne, from committee on Home Missions, asked further time, which was granted.

Report on State Missions was read by T. H. Howle.

Report on Home Missions was read by S. J. Ingram, discussed by Brethren J. A. Preston, S. J. Ingram, W. H. Wright, W. O. Jenkins, W. H. Preston, T. H. Howle, W. T. Davis.

On motion of J. D. Johnson, granted Bro. W. T. Davis an extension of time.

A motion of T. H. Howle to instruct the Clerk to add the statistics to the State and Home Mission reports was adopted.

The Foreign Mission report of last year was read by T. H. Howle, and after some discussion was adopted, and the Clerk instructed to insert the statistics of this year. Adjourned for refreshments.

EVENING SESSION.

The Association convened at 1 o'clock; sang, "We plead thy promise now, O Lord," and were led in prayer by Rev. W. O. Jenkins. The Mission reports were further discussed by Brethren J. A. Shadix, D. B. Hicks and adopted separately.

Report on Sabbath Schools was read by the Clerk and adopted.

Report on Destitutions was read by J. A. Shadix and adopted.

Report on Publications was read by the Clerk and adopted.

On motion of T. H. Howle, suspended the order of business to hear from Bro. J. C. Thrower, of Cedar Creek Association, in regard to the educating of Bro. Jas. Bruce of that Association to the ministry. The matter was discussed by T. H. Howle, J. C. Thrower, T. M. Reeves, W. P. Eden and others.

A motion of J. C. Stansell to appoint a committee of one brother from each church to take up a collection by subscription in the churches was adopted and the following committee appointed, viz: New Home, H. H. Stephens; Mt. Moriah, J. A. Preston; Ramah, T. M. Reeves; Bethel, J. H. Davis; Good Hope, W. E. Reagan; Union, T. C. Strickland; Christiana, J. D. Knight; Mt. Olive, F. C. Fulton; Pleasant Grove, W. B. Greggs; Bethlehem, W. P. Humphries; Bethsaida, Stephen Nixon; Salt Creek, J. H. Murner; Jenifer, J. F. Clark; Lime Hill, W. G. Raughton; Providence, G. W. Gunter; Ebenezer, John Hughes; Pine Grove, L. M. Segar.

Took up a collection for Bro. James Bruce, amounting to \$6.81. Resumed the regular order of business.

Temperance report was read by T. H. Howle, discussed by W. T. Davis, T. H. Howle and others. W. W. Payne moved to amend the report by striking out the word immoderate. T. H. Howle moved to amend the amendment by inserting the word inordinate, which was lost. Bro. Payne's motion was carried and the report adopted as amended.

A motion of T. H. Howle that the money collected yesterday and today be included in Treasurer's report was adopted.

Money raised for Messrs Peacock and Somerlin was turned over to N. M. Daniel for them.

Committee appointed to collect funds for Bro. Willis Taylor raised \$7.70 and they were requested to forward the same to him.

On motion of J. A. Shadix agreed to hold the next session of this body with Bethlehem church.

On motion of Rev. H. H. Stevens a statement from J. W. Stewart, Financial Secretary of the Orphans Home, read by W. T. Davis, of the Carey Association, was ordered printed in our minutes.

Called for resolutions when the following was offered by T. H. Howle and adopted:

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to New Home church and surrounding community for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

J. D. Johnson offered the following resolution:

That this Association meet on Tuesday after the fourth Sabbath in October of each year, which was adopted.

On motion of G. F. Ingram, adjourned to meet with Bethlehem church on Tuesday after the fourth Sunday in October, 1897, after prayer in behalf of the churches by J. A. Shadix.

J. H. FULLERTON,
Clerk.

W. M. GARRETT,
MODERATOR.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

A. F. Allen, DeArmanville.
T. H. Howle, Delta.
J. A. Shadix, Shinbone.
J. D. Johnson, Chulafinnee.
C. G. Crowder, Anniston.
J. P. Eden, Anniston.
C. C. Barrett, Jenifer.
J. G. Nall, Silver Run.

J. W. Chandler, Eastaboga.
H. H. Stephens, Delta.
J. W. Bates, Anniston.
W. M. Garrett, Oaklone.
J. T. Dameron, Jenifer.
L. P. Hodnet e. Christiana.
H. C. Knight, Barfield.
S. J. Ingram, Rocky Mount.

LICENTIATES.

C. M. Smith, Delta.
L. S. Reeves, Anniston.
L. M. Segar, Anniston.
J. S. Moore, Barfield.
Samuel Taylor, Rock Mount.
Jas. A. Wright, Kentuck.

M. S. C. Dover, Shinbone.
R. G. Davis, Eastaboga.
Adam Gordan, Oxford.
William Odell, Oxford.
T. F. McCollough, Oaklone.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT NEXT SESSION.

Sabbath Schools—A. M. Smith, S. B. Smith and J. J. Swope.
Home Missions—J. A. Wright, D. P. Atchison and J. W. Smith.
State Missions—J. H. Fullerton, J. D. Knight and W. B. Mathews.
Foreign Missions—J. D. Johnson, T. M. Reeves and G. F. Ingram.
Temperance—T. H. Howle, W. W. Payne and T. F. McCollough.
Orphans' Home—J. A. Shadix, W. P. Hodnet and J. M. Snow.
Destitutions—J. F. Clarke, F. C. Fulton and J. H. McDaniel.
Publications—J. H. Davis, C. J. Payne and F. J. Ford.
Obituaries—S. J. Ingram, John Horn and J. R. Rough.
Executive Committee—J. H. Davis, J. A. Preston and W. P. Humphries.
To preach the Introductory Sermon—Revs W. M. Garrett and S. J. Ingram.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following report:

The Sabbath School is an institution of very great importance. First it is inductive to good morals; second, it assists the ministry; and, thirdly, it is an auxiliary to the church. And yet we see but little interest in Sabbath Schools in the bounds of this Association, and consequently we appeal to all the churches and pastors of churches to go to work in the Sabbath School cause.

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. PRESTON.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee take the position that the use of the unnecessaries of life is intemperance, and the Bible condemns all intemperance, whether it be in eating, drinking, sleeping, working, talking, buying and selling, and such like. Yet this report will be confined to the use of ardent spirits as a beverage. As to the great amount of cost in dollars and cents we will say nothing, for it is nothing compared to the souls of the children of men. We feel safe in saying that the use of ardent spirits as a beverage has and is causing more trouble and sorrow than any other evil among us. This being so, it is the duty of every child of grace to raise his voice and especially his deeds against the God-dishonoring and soul-destroying stuff. God says, in Prov. 20:1, that wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise; in Prov. 23:29, Who hath woe, who hath sorrow, who hath contentions, who hath babblings, who hath wounds without cause? He that tarrieth long at the wine or is deceived thereby. Christ tells us, in Math. 24:49-51, that if man eats and drinks with the drunken that he will cut him asunder and appoint him his portion with hypocrites. And eating and drinking in this passage means Christian debauchery. We believe that Christians tolerating such doings is the great hindering cause to the progress of Zion, and should be avoided. Help us so to do is our prayer for the cause of temperance.

L. P. HODNETT,
Chairman.

HOME MISSIONS.

We, your committee, would respectfully submit the following as our report:

There has been from time to time so much said and written on this great and important subject that we may fail to interest your minds, and yet there might be a great deal more said and written; but we deem it useless to say so much and yet do so little. That it is an absorbing subject we are all ready to admit, but we have hitherto fallen far short of meeting the demands. Home Missions and the wants thereof is the first great duty incumbent upon the church or churches. We read that the first missionaries sent out into the field by our Savior were commanded to go not into the way of the Gentiles, nor into any city of the Samaritans, but to go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Therefore, we advocate administering to the wants and necessities of our own people at home first, then to reach into foreign fields.

Summary of work for the past conventional year, taken from report of Home Mission Board, is as follows: Missionaries, 411; weeks of labor, 12,329; churches and stations, 1,626; sermons and addresses, 58,041; prayer meetings, 9,622; baptisms, 5,617; received by letter, 6,672; total additions, 13,295; Sunday Schools organized, 372; teachers and pupils, 12,635; churches constituted, 207; religious visits, 61,498; houses of worship built, 92; houses of worship improved, 146; amount expended on houses of worship, \$86,209.00; Bibles and Testaments distributed, 2,595; tracts distributed, pages, 726,675.

Respectfully submitted,
S. J. INGRAM,
Chairman.

STATE BOARD REPORT

We, your committee, have not at our command the report of the Secretary, which would enable us to formulate a correct statement of the proceedings of the Board for the last year, which has had an existence for a quarter of a century.

The Board was originated as an advanced movement to put into active operation a force whose power might be felt in the further development of the spirit of missions in our State; to unify and combine the strength of church and Association; to give life and activity to enterprise and experiment,—that the masses might be reached and that the churches might be taught their duty and responsibility in lending a helping hand in the supply of the bread of life to the needy; that there might be concert of action and effort in the general diffusion of the spirit of Christian giving, to co-op-

erate and to help to bring up every church and Association side by side in the Convention, that there may be equality; that the more prosperous and fortunate might help those who could not help themselves, and to so augment our State treasury that it might become tributary and act in concert with other Boards of Missions; that the capacity might expand and enlarge so that we might have a correct conception of what our duty and obligations are and the responsibility we are under to mankind and to our Redeemer and our God for all His goodness and saving power and love manifested to sinners by his inestimable gift of his Son. It must be conceded that the work of the Board is manifest in the general diffusion of Gospel truth which bears upon our earthly mission, and that its effects have been salutary among all those who have availed themselves of the proffered help, and those only have been neglected who have been indifferent and repugnant. We have reached a point in our history, in our humble conception, when we have less use for the State Board than in the past, and that its work has almost reached the zenith of its glory. That the churches and Associations have been so awakened and so aroused, and have imbibed so much of the spirit of Christian giving, and to such an extent their duties and responsibility, that they realized that self-preservation is the first law of nature, and that each Association should master and control her own situation and destitutions. We do not mean to cease co operation with the State Board, nor advocate its discontinuance, but insist upon individual responsibility of each Association to work out and Christianize her own domain and territory, and that our surplus, if any, be appropriated to the help of the several Boards of Christian Missions. The fields are white to harvest and our fields are staring us in the face and lying uncultivated and neglected, only so far as the pastor can reach, and about all he can do with his meagre salary is to give his flock a scanty meal. The poor, the halt, the maimed, the blind, the sick, the dying, the widow, the orphan, the old, the infirm, and the worn-out and broken-down preacher is left to die in want and poverty, with no one to care for him. This is the situation too little realized and felt by many, a sin that lieth at our door. Oh! it is a sin to neglect the sick, the suffering and dying, and fail to add and administer comfort and consolation. This sin of omission! How wanton, how cruel! Oh! it will haunt us to our graves unless we avert the calamity by promptly and vigorously adopting and prosecuting some effectual remedy. This remedy may be provided in securing the pastor's whole time in the communities of his pastorate, or it may be provided in setting apart one of our number for this special and gracious God-honoring and soul-saving work, and making such appropriations as will be necessary for his support while engaged in the work.

T. H. HOWLE,
Chairman.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We, your committee to report on the all-important subject of Foreign Missions, feel our incompetency for the task, and with reluctance we enter upon the work. We are now occupying Africa, Brazil, China, Italy, Japan and Mexico. In all this we have but 91 missionaries, 89 natives, with a membership of 4,172; increased by baptism this year, 735; increased by letter this year, 109; increased by restoration, 14; total increase, 858.

FINANCES.

As will be seen by the Treasurer's report, there was received during the year for the use of the Board only \$102,056 15. While some States show a handsome increase, the majority report a marked falling off. We have expended for Missions during the year \$105,118.90, thus exceeding our income, notwithstanding the Board has reduced the expenditures in the foreign fields about \$5,000 00. We have, therefore, to report an increase in our indebtedness. We now owe \$26,092.89 for money borrowed. It will not be practicable for us to borrow much more. The question we submit to you is simply this: Where shall we get money for current expenses of some \$10,000.00 a month during the summer months when our receipts are always small? We always begin to get in debt the first month of the year, even

while the Convention is in session. Special efforts have always been made just before the Convention, and then for several months after the contributions are very small. The past year, for instance, we needed, to meet current expenditures from May 1st to October 1st, about \$50,000 00. We received in that time \$23,140 00, thus forcing us to borrow nearly \$27,000 00, in addition to our other indebtedness, and then pay interest on that sum. In eleven months less than \$70,000 00 was received for the work, and in April, the twelfth month, over \$35,000 00 was received. Thus one-third of all given was received in the last month. Are we honest with God in carrying on his work in this way?

The result of the year's work brings Southern Baptists face to face with this momentous question: How can we make our annual income for Foreign Missions equal to our annual expenditures? After the experience of the past year we are profoundly convinced that the settlement of this question cannot longer be postponed.

(The above was taken from Foreign Mission report of 1896.)

Brethren, we are not to be content in the small compass of Home and State Missions.

But wider yet is the thought of Jesus. The field is not my city, my country, my church, nor all my churches together—the field is the world! Wherever man is found, from sea to sea and pole to pole, regardless of all lines of race and color and belief; all divisions—social, political, religious,—the field is the world, anything less is a caricature of Christianity; any smaller conception is a belittling of our faith; any smaller endeavor is unworthy of the Christian name.

The man who wants to work for Christ must share the horizon of Christ; the man who truly stands beside the Son of God will see the world as he saw it.

Here, then, is the true motive of Foreign Missions. Not that the heathen will be punished eternally; not that they are dropping into a pit of woe at the rate of so many a minute. Such calculations will not help us. The ultimate fate of all souls we leave in the hands of the infinite God. We are willing to say that what we know about the future is little, what we do not know is immense. Our message is not a theodicy, but a gospel. It is ours, not "to justify the ways of God to men," but to rectify the ways of men to God. The ultimate motive is this: We love Christ, and what he is doing we would do also; we love Christ, and therefore, wherever his pierced feet lead the way, we must follow. We love Christ, and therefore, while he is saying "The field is the world," we dare not say "The field is my church, my city, my native land." As the Crusaders had one answer to all objections, "Deus vult," so our answer is only this: "It is the will of Christ." Here is also the true method of Foreign Missions. The good seed are the children of the kingdom.

Not simply certain truths are we trying to give to heathendom—not to plant certain dogmas and watch their development, but to plant living men and women in the heart of heathendom. We are to give not a theology, but a self; we are to plant not Christianity, but Christians. Every gift is small which has no heart behind it. The amount of self that goes into the contribution box measures the effectiveness of the contribution.

Sometimes, in cases of illness, the physician prescribes a draught of ordinary water from a wooden cup fashioned out of some medical forest tree. It is only common water that the sick man drinks, yet that water resting in the hollow cup has absorbed into it all the healing virtues of the forest tree. So I have known men who could give only a tiny gift—ten minutes of time, a single dollar, it may be; yet that gift, coming from a Christlike soul, had so absorbed into itself the quality of the giver that it was full of healing and helping power for humanity. The good seed is not simply propositions that we can promulgate, not simply institutions that we can transport, but men and women who are the children of the kingdom, who, because Christ has touched them, are able to touch others into Christlike life.

Yours respectfully,

W. M. GARRETT,
Chairman.

DESTITUTIONS.

We, your committee, find no destitutions.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. SHADIX,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

We, your committee, request our brethren to take more interest in reading the Bible and distributing religious literature throughout the bounds of our Association. We recommend The Alabama Baptist, The Baptist Index, The Home Field, The Foreign Mission Journal, and Kind Words, as good literature for our families to read. All of which is submitted.

H. H. STEPHENS,
Chairman.

OBITUARIES.

DEAR BRETHREN: We are passing to the great beyond. While we are thankful to Almighty God that we have lost but one of our ministerial brethren this year—Bro. P. L. Chandler, a licensed minister,—we see from the reports of the churches that thirteen of our body have crossed the river of death. Brethren, God is calling his servants home. We know not who will be next, but let each be diligent to do his Master's will, and be ready when the summons comes, to say, as did Bro. Chandler, that our way is clear and that we are going home to dwell forever and be at rest.

J. H. FULLERTON,
Chairman.

FINANCE REPORT.

Your committee on Finance submit the following report:

We find for Minutes.....	\$19 55
Missions.....	22 23
Foreign Missions.....	3 40
Indian Missions.....	1 00
Orphans' Home.....	6 67
Total.....	\$52 85

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. REAGAN,
Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. H. FULLERTON, *In account with Boiling Spring Association.*

1896.

DR.

Oct. 26.	To am't received from A. M. Smith, former Treasurer, as Indigent Ministers' Fund.....	\$18 24
	To am't received from Finance Committee—	
	For Printing Minutes.....	19 55
	Missions.....	22 23
	Foreign Missions.....	3 40
	Indian Missions.....	1 00
	Orphans' Home.....	6 67
	To cash collected at the Association—	
	For Missions.....	2 62
	Willis Taylor.....	7 70
	Jas. Bruce.....	6 81
	Messrs Peacock and Somerlin.....	4 91
	To supplement Minute Fund.....	1 00—\$94 13

1896.	CR.	
Nov. 1.	By am't sent Sec. State Mission Board—	
	For Missions.....	\$24 85
	Foreign Mis-sions.....	3 40
	Indian Missions.....	1 00
	Orphans' Home.....	6 67
Oct. 26.	By am't paid J. D. Knight for Bro. Taylor.....	7 70
	J. T. Thrower for Bro. Bruce.....	6 81
	N. M. Daniel for Messrs. Peacock and Somerlin.....	4 91
	By am't paid for printing Minutes.....	10 55
	Clerk's fee.....	10 00
	By balance on hand for Indigent Ministers.....	18 24—\$94 13

THE BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

Was permanently located at Evergreen two years ago last November, and the property purchased at a cost of five thousand dollars. The debt has all been paid, and this valuable property is now free from encumbrance. It consists of eighty acres of land, lying on Main street, of which thirty acres are in farm, thirty in woods and twenty in pasture. All has been enclosed with substantial woven wire fence, and a commodious barn has been arranged.

In this Home have been received 29 boys and 31 girls, and out of it have gone, by adoption, 10 boys and 14 girls; by apprenticeship, 2 boys. We do not apprentice girls, and only apprentice boys in exceptional cases.

The children attend the Agricultural School, and most of them are doing well. They all attend Sunday School and church, and are under firm, steady, loving control in the Orphanage. Eight of them have been baptized.

We have more applications to take children than we can approve for want of room. We are in pressing need of a cook room, a laundry room, a dining room, and, since the terrible scourge of measles through which we have just passed, we find that we greatly need a sick room.

Now, that the Associations are soon to meet, will not the friends of the institution provide the means for the addition of these much needed appliances?

While we are doing this, let us also provide four more dormitories so that we can care for at least sixty children.

Brethren, shall we undertake to make these much needed additions, relying on you to help us nobly in this as you did in paying for the property?

Let's hear from you.

JNO. W. STEWART,
Financial Secretary.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, (1) That any member of this Association in good standing may consider himself a correspondent to any Association he may visit.

Resolved, (2) That we allow the Clerk \$10.00 for his services, and the balance be apportioned for minutes.

Resolved, (3) That this Association is in profound sympathy with all movements which look to the suppression of the sale and use of intoxicating liquors.

Resolved, (4) That we recommend our churches to exclude from their fellowship any member who in any way aids in the making, selling or licensing of ardent spirits.

Resolved, (5) That it is the sense of this Association that the reported desecration of the Sabbath day by members going to and from market is totally at variance with the sacred Scriptures, and should not be tolerated.

Resolved, (6) That each minister of this Association be requested to have as many as two appointments each month during the next associational year.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one person shall speak at a time, and shall rise to his feet; and, on obtaining leave, proceed to speak, not exceeding fifteen minutes at any time, without leave from the Association.
6. The Moderator, when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject or uses words of personal reflection; and every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by him that made it.
8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be first decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
9. When anything is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays.
10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision of the body immediately after it is decided.
11. No person shall depart during the services of the Association without leave.
12. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in our addresses to each other.
13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
14. No brother shall be allowed to indulge in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in the time of public speech.
15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided he appoints some other to his seat while he is speaking, but shall not vote unless the Association is equally divided.
16. Any person breaking this Decorum shall be reprov'd, at the discretion of the Association, but only on the day breach is made.
17. All cases coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority of the members present, except the reception of churches in our union, which shall be unanimous.
18. The Rules of Decorum shall be read at the opening of each session of this body.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The ordained and licensed ministers, together with the lay members who are regular chosen delegates, and who are in good standing in our union, shall compose this Association. Ministers are not considered as delegates, but are considered as members, and have the same privilege of debate and vote as other members and of performing any other duty assigned them by the body.

ART. 2. The members so chosen shall produce letters or other evidences from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the state of their churches since their last representation.

ART. 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be called the Boiling Spring Baptist Association.

ART. 4. The Association shall sit as an advisory council, and shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the internal right of the churches, but shall have power to withdraw from any church proved to be unsound in faith and practice according to Scripture; and any church that fails to represent itself for two associational meetings shall be deemed in disorder. It shall then be the duty of the Association to appoint two or more brethren to visit said church to ascertain the cause of its delinquency, and to report the same to the next Association.

ART. 5. If one church commits an offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender; and if it fails to obtain

satisfaction, it shall call the aid of two or more sister churches; and if satisfaction cannot be obtained, the aggrieved church may lay the case before the Association for advice; and if a serious difficulty should arise in an individual church, which after due labor, it cannot reconcile, it may call to its aid two or more churches of its union; and if the difficulty be not then removed, it shall be the duty of the church to bring the case before the Association, to be acted upon as above prescribed; but the Association shall take cognizance of no case unless a due course of procedure shall have been taken.

ART. 6. Any church desiring admittance into this union shall petition by letter and messengers, and, if found orthodox, shall be received by the Association through the Moderator's giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 7. Each church in our union shall have three delegates until it has fifty members, and then one additional delegate for every twenty-five members after the first fifty.

ART. 8. Any church has a right to authorize any brother over whom it has jurisdiction to exercise in public, if, in its judgment, it may deem him worthy; but in licensing we recommend the churches to call to their aid experienced members from other churches. In case of ordination we recommend that two or more ordained ministers be called to aid in the same and that a report be made at the next Association.

ART. 9. This Association may correspond with any Baptist benevolent institution she may deem expedient, and shall be considered a co-worker with all the missionary enterprises of the day, as far as authorized or required by the Scripture.

ART. 10. This Association shall have power at the convening of each session to elect a Moderator and Clerk, who shall hold office until the next regular election.

ART. 11. Any amendment may be made to this form of Constitution at any time when two thirds of the Association may deem it expedient.

ART. 12. Any church wishing a letter of dismission shall make application therefor by letter.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES, WITH PROOF.

1. We believe in one only true and living God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, these three in one.—1 Cor. 8:4; Isaiah 44:6; 45:5,21: "Thou has created all things," Rev. 4:11; Gen. 1; Heb. 3:4; Jer. 10:12; Ex. 15:11; Isa. 6:3.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only true rule of faith and practice.—Proof: 2 Pet. 1:21; Acts 1:16; 3:21; Rom. 3:2; 2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 1:2; 2 Pet. 3:16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.—Proof: Rom. 5:12; 14:91; Gen. 3-6,24; Ps. 51:5.

4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and holiness.—Proof: Eph. 2:1,3; Isa. 53:6; Gal. 3:10,22; Rom. 3:19.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truths—John 3:16; Eph. 2:4,10; 1 John 4:10; Phil. 2:6,7; Heb. 2:15,16.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the merits of Jesus Christ.—Proof: Tit. 3:7; Phil. 3:9; Rom. 5:1,5,9; Gal. 2:16,19.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and not finally fall away.—Proof: Matt. 10:22; John 10:28,29; 4:14,17; 2:7.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe that the true mode of baptism is immersion.—Proof: Matt. 28:20; Acts 2:42; Mark 1:4,9.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment.—Proof: Acts 24:15; Luke 14:14; John 5:28; Matt. 13:49; 24:31; 25:32.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.—Proof: Matt. 25:26; Ps. 9:17; Dan. 12:2.

11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as has been called of God, and regularly baptized and approved by the church, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery.

12. We believe that none but believers have a right to the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

STATISTICS OF BOILING SPRING BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1896.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR'S NAME AND POST OFFICE.	CLERK'S NAME AND POST OFFICE.	Membership Last Reported	Increase		Decrease		Present Membership..	Sabbath of Meeting..	Minute Fund	Foreign Missions	Missions.....	Holding Sab. School..	Orphans' Home.....	Indian Missions
					By Restoration....	By Baptism.....	By Letter.....	By Voucher.....	By Letter.....	By Exclusion....	By Death	By Erasure....				
Bethel.....	Clay	W M Garrett, Oaklone	A M Smith, Oaklone.....	117 2	7	20	14	1	3	128	2	\$ 2 00	\$13 43	...	25	\$1 00
Bethlehem.....	Cleburne	A F Allen, DeArmanville	John M Snow, Hicks	149 ..	1	2	16	3	...	133	2	2 00	1 00	...	...	...
Bethsaida	Cleburne .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Christiana	Randolph	L P Hodnett, Christiana	J D Knight, Christiana.....	133 ..	16	6	7	1	...	132	4	1 60	...	...	2 65	...
Good Hope	Clay	T H Howle, Delta	W C Reagan, Delta.....	46 ..	3	6	4	...	...	44	4	1 00	...	...	...	...
Jenifer.....	Talladega	J W Chandler, Eastaboga	W M Clark, Silver Run.....	94 ..	2	4	3	...	...	103	1	2 00	...	...	...	...
Lime Hill.....	Talladega	J W Chandler, Eastaboga	W Cox, Oxford.....	54 ..	6	3	5	1	2	66	4	1 00	...	...	...	...
Mt Moriah.....	Clay	S J Ingram, Rocky Mount	G F Ingram, Delta.....	76 ..	2	1	5	...	...	73	1	1 50	...	...	3 77	...
Mt Olive	Clay	J A Shadix, Shimbone.....	J T Sims, Barfield.....	30 ..	2	1	5	...	...	27	1	1 50	...	...	...	...
New Home	Clay	T H Howle, Delta	J E Daniel, Delta.....	25 ..	3	1	...	...	...	29	2	1 00	...	...	...	...
Pine Grove	Calhoun .....	...	L M Scagers, Anniston.....	61 ..	...	...	...	...	...	61	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleasant Grove	Clay	H C Knight, Barfield.....	P D Atchison, Wyatt	111 ..	10	7	9	2	...	118	2	1 65	...	...	4 45	...
Providence.....	Talladega	C J Westly, Stockdale.....	G W Gunter, White Cloud	27 1	5	6	6	1	1	33	...	75	...	...	...	...
Ramah	Clay	W M Garrett, Oaklone.....	H C Willingham, Delta.....	146 ..	2	...	12	4	1	131	3	2 00	6 45	S.	...	...
Salt Creek.....	Talladega	J A Shadix, Shimbone.....	J A Wright, Keutuck	76 ..	2	9	11	...	...	76	4	1 50	...	...	...	...
Union	Clay	J P Eden, Anniston.....	T C Strickland, Dempsey	89 1	...	2	6	...	...	86	1	75	...	...	...	...
Ebenezer	Clay .....	...	J R Nowland, Munford.....	44 ..	...	...	...	...	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total .....	...	...	...	...	4	62	113	10	14	1280	...	\$19 55	\$ 3 40	\$20 98	\$11 12	\$1 00

Pleasant Grove donated \$4 45 to Orphans' Home.

DIRECTORY.

1. Receive and read letters from churches.
2. Elect Moderator and Clerk.
3. Call of petitionary letters.
4. Appoint committees to report during the session.
5. Call for correspondents.
6. Read rules of decorum.
7. Hear reports of standing committees.
8. Give instructions on appropriations.
9. Call for resolutions.
10. Appoint standing committees.
11. Hear committee on finance.
12. Hear executive committee.
13. Hear report of treasurer.
14. Arrange for printing minutes.
15. Miscellaneous business.
16. Correct minutes and adjourn.

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